

# Remembering Alan D. Adams

By the Jazz Rambler Staff

AFCDJS Executive Director Alan D. Adams passed away on Aug. 11, 2011 following a year-long battle with oral cancer. His imprint on the San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival cannot be overstated. In fact, during the last decade, the event was frequently referred to as "Al Adams' Festival" by performers and patrons alike.

Born in Howell, Michigan in 1937, Alan began playing music as a teenager and settled on trombone as his primary instrument; however, he was very accomplished on the tuba as well.

He wound up a 30-year career in the U.S. Navy at the Fleet Anti-Submarine Training Center in San Diego. Upon retiring, he settled in San Diego, and he and his wife, Joan, became active in the fledgling local jazz society and the Festival which got its start with the Holiday Bowl before moving to Thanksgiving Weekend.

Alan served AFCDJS as Board Member, Treasurer, President and Festival Chairman before he became Executive Director in 1993. He was also the Executive Director of the AFCDJS Adult Jazz Camps; the Director of the Jazz Society's monthly jazz workshops and for 17 years he hosted

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# JAZZ RAMBLER

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## Fest #32 — A 'Special' Occasion

Special sets have always been highlights of the San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival. The specials planned for Festival #32 are no exception! Some of the scheduled specials include:

- The **High Sierra Jazz Band** tribute to the music of *King Oliver and Louis Armstrong*.
- The **Grand Dominion Jazz Band's** *New Orleans Revival-Style Jazz*.
- **Dave Bennett's** reprise of his SRO tribute to *Jerry Lee Lewis*.
- Pianist/Jazz Historian **Tex Wyndham's** *History of Ragtime* and songs by *Walter Donaldson*.
- The **Yerba Buena Stompers'** presentation of compositions by *Lu Watters and Turk Murphy*.
- The **Night Blooming Jazzmen's** *1924 Jazz*, and the patented Sunday morning *Hymn-A-Long*.
- The **Titanic Jazz Band's** tribute to *Jelly Roll Morton*.

Besides these musical offerings, *Pianorama* is returning to the Festival in 2011. The piano party in its own room is scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with



*Katie Cavera and Friends*

appearances by **Stephanie Trick, Carl Sonny Leyland, Chris Dawson, Sue Palmer, Robbie Rhodes, Virginia Tichenor, Marty Eggers, Paul Reid, Jay Berman, Bob Pinsker, Tad Weed, Lee Fugal** and the aforementioned **Tex Wyndham**. (In addition, there will be two *Dual Piano* sets, featuring **Stephanie Trick** with **Carl Sonny Leyland**, and with **Chris Dawson**).

Other treats include guest artist **Chloe Feoranzo** sitting in with several of the Festival bands; musical *Tributes to Alan Adams*; the youth groups **Mission Bay Preservationists** (formally the MBHS Dixie Jazz Band) and **Generation Jazz**; **Dick Williams' JazzSea Jams** (organized jam sessions); *Dance Classes* conducted by **Hal and Georgia Myers**; a *Swing Dance Demonstration* by **2toGroove** and *Parasol Parades* throughout the Festival weekend.

On Wednesday Nov. 23, the "Pre-Festival" begins at 7pm as the **Dave Bennett Quartet** and **Dixie Express** alternate sets. Thursday afternoon, the **Town & Country's** famous Thanksgiving Buffet will feature live music by **Carl Sonny Leyland, Chloe**

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### The AFCDJS

#### Monthly Concert Series

*Third Sunday of the Month except  
Jan. No concerts Nov. & Dec.*

**Jan. 22 Special Date – Hot Jazz Instructors**

**Feb. 19 – South Bay Jazz Ramblers**

**March 18 – Heliotrope Ragtime Orch.**

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**The Mississippi Room at the  
Lafayette Hotel & Suites**

**2223 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA**

Take I-805, exit El Cajon Blvd West. The Lafayette Hotel is 2 blocks West of Texas Street. The Mississippi Room is located downstairs, in the northwest corner of the building. Enter from the El Cajon Blvd. entrance door.

**All concerts are from 1-4pm.  
Full bar service is available.**

# JAZZ RAMBLER

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For information about the Society, call (619) 297-5277.

Website: [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org).

Fax number (619) 297-5281. Single copy price \$5.00. Editorial contributions welcome.

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## Advertise in the *Rambler*

Advertising in the *Jazz Rambler* is one of the best ways to reach a large exclusive audience of Trad Jazz fans. With our circulation of approximately 2,000 and an estimated readership of 3,500, you will be reaching thousands of people who are interested in all aspects of Traditional Jazz.

The *Rambler* is published quarterly. Deadlines are the 5th of the month, prior to the date of issue. Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1 and Nov. 1.

### Advertising Rates

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Full page        | — \$275.00 |
| One Half page    | — 150.00   |
| One Third page   | — 110.00   |
| One Quarter page | — 85.00    |
| One Eighth page  | — 50.00    |

For a rate sheet, write AFCDJS, P.O. Box 880387, San Diego, CA 92168-0387 or call (619) 297-5277.

### AFCDJS is a member of:

- American Federation of Jazz Societies
- International Association of Classic Jazz Festivals
- San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
- San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau

## *Jazz Alive* — Here, There, Everywhere

(To have events included in the *Jazz Rambler* or on the AFCDJS website, submit updates by the 28th of each month to Myrna Goodwin at [goodwinhawkins@cox.net](mailto:goodwinhawkins@cox.net).)

### DIXIE EXPRESS

**Fuddruckers**, Wednesdays, 6-8pm, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr., La Mesa, <http://www.dixieexpressjbsandiego.com>, (888) 802-7469 or [jandacontreras@cox.net](mailto:jandacontreras@cox.net)

### SAN DIEGO BANJO BAND

**McDonald's** at El Cajon Blvd. & 54th St. every Tuesday from 5:30-7:30pm

### UPTOWN RHYTHM MAKERS

First Friday of each month, 8-11pm, **Claire de Lune**, 2906 University Ave. San Diego. Guest artist Bobby Gordon [www.facebook.com/URMjazz](http://www.facebook.com/URMjazz)

### BAYSIDE DIXIE STOMPERS

Tuesdays, 6-8pm, **Fuddruckers**, 8285 Mira Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA

### REY VIOLE'S DIXIELAND WORKSHOP

Tuesdays, 7-9 pm, **The Orchard**, 4040 Hancock, San Diego (858) 581-9293.

### PARAGON JAZZ BAND

**Mission Gorge Cafe**, 6171 Mission Gorge Road, Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 14, 28, 6:30-8:30 pm

**La Mesa Adult Center**, Friday, Dec. 2, 7-10pm

**St. Paul's Villa**, Thurs. (except 2nd Thurs.) 6:30-8:00pm, 2340 4th Ave., San Diego

**OASIS Class- Macy's Mission Valley**, Nov. 17, 1:15-2:45pm (3rd Floor)

**Paradise Village**, 2700 East 4th National City; Nov. 18. Dec. 16, Jan. 20, 3-5pm

**The Orchard**, 4040 Hancock, San Diego, (858) 581-9293, Dec. 31, 10pm-12:15am

**Veterans' Club**, 700 East Naples, Chula Vista, Nov. 11, 12-1pm

### RED PEPPER JAZZ BAND

2nd and 4th Sundays, 1-4pm at **Vista Elks Lodge**, 1947 E. Vista Way, Vista (760)724-1968. Check our website for upcoming gigs, [www.redpepperjazz.com](http://www.redpepperjazz.com)

### HIGH SOCIETY JAZZ BAND

Check the website "schedule" for upcoming gigs. [www.highsocietyjazzband.com](http://www.highsocietyjazzband.com). More info Larry (858) 277-5294

### THE SAINTS

**St. Paul's Villa Senior Facility**, 2340 4th Ave., San Diego. Friday, 2-3:30 pm, (619) 384-7574. Musicians, dancers, listeners invited.

### LAKESIDE JAZZ CLUB

1st Sundays (951-245-9504), **Women's Club in Lake Elsinore**, 710 W. Graham Ave., Lake Elsinore, CA 1:30-5pm (Featured band at 3)

Nov. 6—**Hotel Wolverine**

Dec. 4—**Revelation JB**

### JAZZ ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SAN DIEGO

Concert Schedule [www.jazz4u.org](http://www.jazz4u.org) or 760-753-0456 or 858-459-2559.

### RAMONA SENIOR CENTER

Fridays, **George Newman, Dixieland and "oldies" piano**, 11:30am-1pm. Musicians welcome, 434 Aqua Lane, Ramona, (619) 876-4300 X146

### RAMONA TERRACE ESTATES

**Dixieland to Rock & Roll**, Fridays, 3-5pm, musicians welcome, (760) 315-2912, 1212 "H" St. #152, Ramona

### GOLDEN EAGLES

Sundays, 1-4 pm, **Steamer's Restaurant**, 138 W. Commonwealth Ave. in Fullerton. Call for dates and info at (626) 799-1761

### CJ SAMS and KATIE CAVERA

Wednesdays, **Curley's Café**, 1999 E. Willow (at Cherry), Signal Hill, CA. Free. Best to confirm dates and times. Info: [www.katiecavera.net](http://www.katiecavera.net).

### ROYAL GARDEN DIXIE BAND

2nd & 4th Thurs., 7 pm **Shakey's Pizza** 16940 Slover Ave., Fontana

### AUNTIE SKINNER'S LUCKY WINNERS JAZZ BAND

1st & 3rd Monday, **El Patio Restaurant**, 1750 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, 7-9pm

### CROWN CITY DIXIELAND BAND

Wednesdays from 6:30-9pm, **Burger Continental Restaurant**, Pasadena (626) 792-6634

### S. FERNANDO VALLEY BANJO

1st Thursday, 7-8:30pm, (818) 882-1877, **Lamplighter Family Restaurant**, 9110 De Soto Ave., Chatsworth. Reservations suggested.

### BALDY MOUNTAIN SWING

1st and 3rd Thursdays, 8-10:30pm, at **The Press**, 129 Harvard Ave., Claremont Info: (909) 625-4808

### SOUTHSIDE CHICAGO SEVEN

Mondays, 7-10 pm, at **Le Carousse Roughe**, White Lane, Bakersfield. Info: (909) 625-4808

### JERRY ROTHSCHILD'S RAGTIMERS

Mondays, 6-9pm **Curley's Signal Hill**

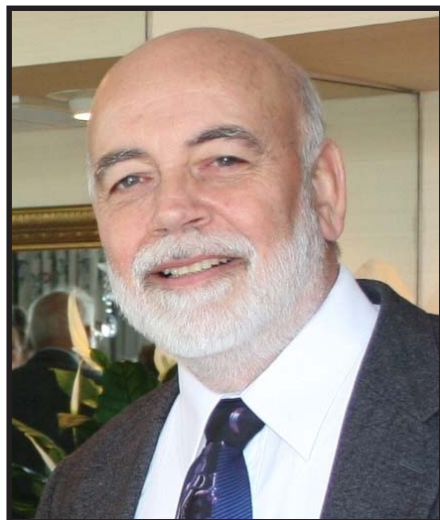
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# AFCDJS Names New Executive Director

America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society is pleased to introduce our new Executive Director, Paul Daspit. In 2006, Paul was elected to our Board of Directors, and since 2007, he has focused on expanding our Sponsorship Program to ensure a strong Festival now and in the years to come. Last April, Paul was recommended by Alan Adams and approved by the Board of Directors to be the Interim Executive Director. At the Sept. meeting, he was voted unanimously to serve as the Executive Director for the San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival and AFCDJS.

Though he is a New Orleans native, Paul grew up in Southern California. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force and holds degrees from both the Air Force Institute of Technology and Louisiana Tech University. This past June, Paul retired from full-time employment, having spent 19 years in sales and program management in the Information Technology industry. Paul and wife June have been married since 1969 and have called San Diego home since 1996. Their daughter, Nicole, lives in Austin, Texas.

As the Executive Director, Paul's responsibilities will include heading the Festival Steering Committee, coordinating with the Town &



Country Resort and Convention Center, and working to ensure that AFCDJS receives support from the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture. Paul will continue to serve as Sponsorship Program Coordinator for the remainder of 2011— and he has asked new AFCDJS Board Member Jim McNaughton, to assist him.

Furthermore, at the Sept. meeting, Hal Smith, long-time AFCDJS Board Member and past President, was selected to fill Paul's seat on the Board of Directors and Jim McNaughton was selected to fill Phil Kirk's seat on the Board. (Executive Director, Paul Daspit, and Assistant Director, Phil Kirk, have assumed non-voting positions thereby freeing up two positions on the Board of Directors for Hal and Jim.) Bill Adams-President, Alice Contreras-Treasurer, Myrna Goodwin-Secretary, Everett Crouse, Ruthe Monteith, Curtis McKee, Jane Brown, Carey Thoza, and Lisa Richardson continue to serve on the Board.

# Special . . .

*Continued from page 1*

Feoranzo and Hal Smith. An early-evening *Sing-A-Long* by **Katie Cavera and Friends** will set the stage for Thursday night's festivities, with performances by **Cornet Chop Suey**, the Yerba Buena Stompers, Dave Bennett Quartet, Grand Dominion Jazz Band and the Titanic Jazz Band.

On Friday, Nov. 25, the complete band lineup will perform, including the **Reynolds Brothers Rhythm Rascals, High Sierra Jazz Band, Red Skunk Jipzee Swing Band, Sue Palmer and her Motel Swing Orchestra, Tim Laughlin/Connie Jones and the New Orleans All-Stars, the High Society Jazz Band, Uptown Lowdown, Red Pepper Jazz Band, Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra, Uptown Rhythm Makers, San Fernando Valley Banjo Band, South Bay Jazz Ramblers, San Diego Banjo Band and Paragon Quartet.**

See the advertisement on page 5 for a complete list of performers at the 2011 San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival. The ad also contains information on how to purchase badges, make hotel reservations at the Town & Country and how to sponsor a room, band, or individual musician. Also be sure to check our informative website, [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org) for the latest information regarding the San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival, the Adult Traditional Jazz Camp, Monthly Concert Series and our Monthly Jazz Workshops.

Join us at Festival #32 for a great variety of special sets and all the wonderful music that keeps our patrons returning year after year!

## Jazz Rambler Available Online

America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society extends a special "Thanks" to all AFCDJS members who signed up to get their *Jazz Rambler* online! Online subscriptions will help us cut high postage costs so we can use that money for "The Music." Remember, it's not too late to change to an "online" *Jazz Rambler* subscription. If you would like to participate in this money-saving program, please email Myrna Goodwin, the AFCDJS Secretary, at [goodwinhawkins@cox.net](mailto:goodwinhawkins@cox.net).

## Under-30 Badges Discounted at Festival

In a sincere effort to pass our love of Traditional Jazz on to the younger generation, AFCDJS will sell discounted Festival badges to anyone under 30. In addition, the Sunday concerts will also be discounted. Children under 12 will still be admitted FREE when accompanied by a paying adult.

Active Duty Military with an ID are also FREE.

So bring your children and grandchildren along and share your love of our music across generation lines. The Festival is quite a treat and young children are often seen "cutting a rug" on the dance floors!

## Jazz Alive . . .

Continued from page 2

jerryrth@sbcglobal.net. (562) 424-0018 or  
(310) 412-5985

### SEAL BEACH, CA

Tuesdays, 6-9pm, **Leisure World Dixieland Workshop**, 13550 Seal Beach Blvd., Club House 3, rm. 8, (562) 594-5722

### NEW ORLEANS JAZZ CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

3rd Sunday, 1pm. **Westminster Lanes**, 6471 Westminster Ave., Westminster

### SOUTH BAY N. ORLEANS JAZZ CLUB

2nd Sunday, 12:30-5pm, **Knights of Columbus Hall**, 214 Avenue I, Redondo Beach. (310) 374-3174

### SO CAL HOT JAZZ SOCIETY

1st Sunday. **American Legion Post 335**, Southgate. (323) 566-9128. 1pm

### SIMI VALLEY JAZZ CLUB

2nd Sunday, 1-5pm, **Simi Valley Senior Center**, 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

### GOLDEN EMPIRE HOT JAZZ SOC.

1st Sunday; 1-5 pm, **Kern City Town Hall**, 1003 Pebble Beach Dr., Bakersfield

### WEST COAST TRAD JASS CLUB

**The Untouchables** – host band, 1st Sunday Every Month 1-5pm

**The Saloon at Piper's Winery**, 6500 Casitas Pass Road, Ventura - 805-684-6494  
<http://www.westcoasttradjass.com>,  
[untouchablehotjass@gmail.com](mailto:untouchablehotjass@gmail.com)

### COSTA MESA, CA

**13th Anniversary Orange County Classic Jazz Festival**, Aug. 4-7, (888) 215-6222, [www.oc-classicjazz.org](http://www.oc-classicjazz.org).

### CHANDLER, AZ

**22nd Annual Arizona Classic Jazz Festival**, Nov. 3-6, [www.azclassicjazz.org](http://www.azclassicjazz.org), (480) 620-3941

### CLEARWATER BEACH, FL

**21st Suncoast Dixieland Jazz Classic** Nov. 18-20. [www.jazzclassic.net](http://www.jazzclassic.net), (727) 536-0064

### SACRAMENTO, CA

**West Coast Ragtime Festival**, Nov. 18-20. [www.westcoastragtime.com](http://www.westcoastragtime.com), 1-866-724-9273

### SEASIDE, OR

**29th Annual Seaside Jazz Festival**, Feb. 24-26, [www.jazzseaside.com](http://www.jazzseaside.com), (866) 345-6257

### DEL MAR, CA

**24th San Diego Jazz Party**, Feb. 24-26, (858) 453-0846, [www.sdjp.org](http://www.sdjp.org)

## Monthly Jazz Concerts

Sponsored by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society  
**Third Sunday of each month except January**  
(No Concerts in November or December)

**January 22 Special Date – Hot Jazz Instructors**

**February 19 – South Bay Jazz Ramblers**

**March 18 – Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra**

### Lafayette Hotel & Suites

**Mississippi Room • 2223 El Cajon Blvd. • San Diego**  
All Programs: 1-4pm • Admission-\$15 • Members-\$10 • Under 30 (with photo ID)-\$5

**PLEASE SUPPORT LIVE TRADITIONAL JAZZ!  
ATTEND OUR MONTHLY CONCERT/DANCES!**

Check the AFCDJS website for the latest information at

[www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org).

## Festival Volunteers

The orientation meeting for the 2011 Festival volunteers will be at the Town & Country Hotel and Convention Center in Royal Palm 5 at 2pm on **Sunday, Nov. 20.**

The meeting is specifically for new volunteers, but all volunteers including cabaret managers and hostesses are encouraged to attend because numerous changes will occur during this year's Festival. Volunteer assignments were mailed at the end of October.

## Still Time Left to Sponsor Fest #32

By Paul Daspit

The 32nd Annual Festival is just days away but there is still time to sponsor a band this year. For those of you who have already done so – thank you very much! We really need you as a sponsor to keep TRAD JAZZ and this Festival alive. For \$250, a sponsor receives:

- An all-events 5-day badge
- Reserved seating in all venues
- Your name in our program and website
- Recognition when your band plays
- Invitation to the sponsors' reception
- One-year membership in AFCDJS
- Tax-deductible receipt

We have some really talented young musicians this year who would certainly appreciate a sponsor's recognition, including Dave Bennett, Stephanie Trick, Chloe Feoranzo, and the Red Skunk Jipzee Swing Band. Encouragement of these young artists through sponsorship helps to "keep the music alive."

This will be my last article as your Sponsorship Program Coordinator. Starting in January, Jim McNaughton has agreed to take over the program. Jim has been attending our Festival for 25+ years and has recently joined the Board of Directors. Contact Jim at [mmcnaughton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mmcnaughton@sbcglobal.net).

**JAZZ  
RAMBLER**

**“Advertise  
with AFCDJS”  
People will  
say “I saw it  
in the  
RAMBLER”**



# 32nd Annual San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival



## All-Event Badge Prices

5-Day Badge \$95  
4-Day Badge \$90  
3-Day Badge \$85  
Daily Badges Available

## Nov. 23 - 27, 2011

Town & Country Resort and Convention Center  
500 Hotel Circle North (I-8 & SR-163) San Diego

[www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)

Featured Bands and Guest Artists:

**Cornet Chop Suey • Red Skunk Jipzee Swing • Dave Bennett Quartet  
High Sierra JB • Reynolds Bros. Rhythm Rascals • Titanic JB  
Yerba Buena Stompers • Uptown Lowdown • Grand Dominion JB  
Tim Laughlin/Connie Jones & the New Orleans All Stars  
Night Blooming Jazzmen • Sue Palmer and her Motel Swing  
Katie Cavera • Carl Sonny Leyland • Stephanie Trick  
Chloe Feoranzo • High Society JB • Dixie Express JB • Red Pepper JB  
Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra • Mission Bay High Preservationists  
Dick Williams' JazzSea Jams • Tex Wyndham • Dance Classes**

*AFCDJS • P.O. Box 880387, San Diego, CA, 92168-0387 • Tel: (619) 297-5277*

**\$5.00 off the price of each 3, 4 or 5-Day badge if staying at Town & Country. To qualify for the discount, room reservations AND badge purchase must be made, and mail orders postmarked prior to Nov. 1, 2011.**

Financial support is provided by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.



### For 2011 Hotel Reservations, contact the Town & Country

500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108

1-800-772-8527 or (619) 291-7131

Rates start at \$103/night

### Festival Hours

Wed. 7-11pm • Thurs. 7-11pm

Fri. 10am - 11pm

Sat. 9am - 11pm

Sun. 8am - 5pm

### BADGE REGISTRATION

AMERICA'S FINEST CITY DIXIELAND JAZZ SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 880387, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92168-0387

**Telephone: (619) 297-5277**

email: [jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org](mailto:jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org) • website: [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)

No. of 5-Day All Event Badges (Wed- Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$95 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No. of 4-Day Badges (Thur - Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$90 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No. of 3-Day Badges (Fri - Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$85 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to join the Society. (Check one)  Single \$20  Couple \$30

Amount of check or money order TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**DAILY BADGES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FESTIVAL**

### 2011 Festival Sponsorships

Take an active role in producing the 2011 Festival!  
Consider sponsoring a Room, Band or Invited Artist.

*Example Sponsorship Plan:*

\$500 for your favorite Band or Invited Artist includes:

- Two 5-Day All-Events Badges and Sponsor Ribbons
  - Invitation to Sponsors' Reception
  - Access to Band Hospitality Room
  - Reserved Seating in all Venues
    - Web and Program Listing
- One Year AFCDJS Membership

\$175 upgrades any multiple-day badge to a Festival Sponsor

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E-mail: [pdstamant@yahoo.com](mailto:pdstamant@yahoo.com) or call Paul Dasplit directly at 619-222-9535 to arrange your sponsorship plan or to obtain additional information.

## Jazz Campers at Festival # 32

Drummer and jazz historian Sue Fischer is the latest alumnus of the AFCDJS Adult Jazz Camps to join a working jazz band — Uptown Lowdown! Sue played with the band for the first time at last year's Thanksgiving Festival. Since then she worked with them at the festivals in Chattanooga, Lacey (WA) and Sun Valley and will be with the band when it returns to San Diego this year.

Other jazz camp alumni who will be playing at Festival #32 include John Contreras, Ken Dillard and Jim Goodwin (Dixie Express); Wally Winters (South Bay Jazz Ramblers); Ken Powell and Jim Fiedler (Red Pepper Jazz Band); Barbara Moore and John Palmer (San Diego Banjo Band), Ed Ducharme (Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra), Frank Highly (Uptown Rhythm Makers), Diane Mensch (Paragon Quartet), and JP Balmat (Mission Bay Preservationists). All these bands are active in and around San Diego (see the "Jazz Alive" listing for details).

In addition, four of the seven instructors at the 2012 jazz camp will be performing at the Festival: Clint Baker (Grand Dominion Jazz Band, Yerba Buena Stompers); Phil Kirk (Red Pepper Jazz Band); Marty Eggers (New Orleans All-Stars); and Katie Cavera (New Orleans All-Stars and Reynolds Brothers).

Be sure to hear our jazz camp alumni during the weekend at Festival #32! For information and to register for the 2012 Adult Jazz Camp, see the advertisement on page 13.

### AFCDJS

#### Music for Youth Bands

Small instrumental combo and Dixie-style musical arrangements are now available for school and youth bands and other community or start-up bands. Check our updated website at: [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org) and click Small Band Music, or you may contact our Archives volunteer by email: [aarchivist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aarchivist@sbcglobal.net).

## Great Prizes for Participating in our 2011 Festival Survey

*At Festival #32, please stop by the AFCDJS Membership table or Information center in the Atlas Foyer and pick up a survey.*

*Complete it for a chance to win:*

### **GREAT PRIZES!!!**

**1st Prize**  
**Brand-new Deering Banjo — Goodtime with Gig Bag**  
**Valued at over \$700**



**2nd Prize**  
**Two 5-day all events badges for the 2012 San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival**

**3rd Prize:**  
**Basket of 10 CDs of bands playing at this year's Festival**

*In addition, all prize winners will receive a one-year membership in America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society.*

**The drawing will be held at 2pm on Sunday, Nov. 27, 2011 in the Atlas Foyer. Winners do not need to be present to win.**

**AFCDJS is a Non-Profit 501(c)3 Organization. Education Program Donations accepted.**

### Fest #32 Badges Now Available Online!!!

AFCDJS has joined the 21st century!! Now, when you go to our website, you can use your credit card (Visa or MC) to purchase Festival badges, become a sponsor, join or renew your membership, contribute to the education fund or even enroll in Jazz Camp. Check it out at [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)

### Reservations ...

Get your reservations at the Town & Country now to ensure a fantastic weekend of jazz. Phone: (619) 291-7131 ext. 3810 and ask for the Jazz Festival rates. Rooms start at \$103 /night plus tax.

## Remembering ...

*Continued from front page*

the "Dixie Hour" on KSDS-FM.

Alan Adams played with a wide variety of performing groups, from his own New Orleans Wanderers to a jazz combo led by pop music star Leon Redbone. More recently, he performed locally with Dixie Express, the Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra, and the Elktones — at the El Cajon Elks Lodge #1812, where Alan was a member for many years.

In many ways, the San Diego Festival has been a family affair. His wife Joan was the Secretary of the Society at the very beginning and has run the Information Center at the Festival ever since. Alan's sons grew up at the Festival, and Bill and Ed — as well as Al's grandchildren — continue to be involved.

*To honor Alan during the Festival, there will be a number of tribute sets plus a two-hour jamfest on Saturday evening.*

Here are some reminiscences from his friends among the many musicians, jazz fans, Festival attendees and AFCDJS officers, directors and board members who admired him....

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

I knew Al Adams mainly as the Festival Director and a musician. We'd see each other at other Festivals and Al and Joan have been to our home for a Jazzy Party.

It was always a great Festival that Al and Joan and others put on, but there were, of course, glitches. I was always impressed when, under circumstances that would cause others to panic, Al was always calm and collected.

Because he was a musician he realized that if the musicians are happy the audiences will be happy and the Festival will be a success. We will miss him!

*Chet Jaeger  
Night Blooming Jazzmen*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

I couldn't have started the Dixie Hour at KSDS 88.3 FM in June of 1981 without his and Alan Totman's help. We didn't have enough Dixieland/

Trad Jazz albums in the station's library to keep a show going back then, so the men graciously allowed me to borrow from their collections until the station's library finally got a better collection of its own. The jazz community in San Diego was blessed for many years by Alan Adams!

*Jean Ann Frazier-Lee, Seattle, WA*

I only met Alan twice, but in those two short meetings, he made a profound impact on me. It is an honor to have been able to meet with him and play a few tunes with him. Truly a kind man who focused on helping those around him.

*Fuzzy Snook, Laramie, Wyoming  
continued on page 9*



*Alan Adams oompahing with Ira Cobb (l) and Howie Nielson*

## American Rag Trial Subscription Offer

Don Jones, publisher of the *American Rag* is offering a two-month "mini-trial-subscription" to all new AFCDJS members. Simply fill out the form below, have it signed by an AFCDJS officer at one of our monthly concerts, then send the completed form to the *American Rag*. You will enjoy two months' worth of reporting on the most important events in the world of Traditional Jazz and Ragtime.



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**America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society**

# Visual Highlights of Our Monthly Concert/Dances

*July Concert Featured Carl Sonny Leyland Trio with Chloe*



*August was Afloat with the Titanic Jazz Band*



*Gilbert Pablo on the sound board*



*A Jazz Epiphany was September's Revelation Jazz Band*



*Sponsors Bruce, Marti and Cass (l-r)*





# Remembering ...

*Continued from page 7*

I was playing regularly with Ira Cobb and Jazzbo at the Bourbon Street West in Solana Beach when Al came by to sit-in with his trombone for our 4th set on Sept. 27, 1980. By April of 1981, Al and I were both playing regularly with Ira so when Tubaman Jim Eakle, owner of the Grand Slam Saloon, wanted to put a band together to play at Padres' games, he got Ira and Al and me, plus Frenchy LaVesque on bass drum. The Grand Slam Dixie Band auditioned at a Padres-Angels exhibition game on April 6, 1981, and we were hired to play at home games, alternating with the organist, on a regular schedule through the World Series here in 1984. We always played The Star Spangled Banner on the field, Take Me Out to the Ball Game at the seventh inning stretch, and other Jazzy tunes during the games. And, that was the start of a lot of great gigs with Al.

*Howie Nielson  
San Diego*

~~~~~

Alan sure did a lot musically. Not to be forgotten, and what I really enjoyed, was his radio program and his great band — the New Orleans Wanderers.

*Bob Andersen  
San Diego*

My introduction to Al came on Jan. 16, 1997 when I showed up at the Town & Country Hotel for my first San Diego Jazz Camp experience as a student. Al made us all feel welcome at the camp and quickly put us at ease with the self-imposed high-pressure environment. He was helpful and inspirational to us all without prejudice. Since that time, I have had the pleasurable experiences of making music with Al at every Jazz Camp since 1997, all of his Swing Camps, many of his jazz workshops, and several of his paying gigs. I learned a lot from Al — about trad music and other things.

My most memorable thoughts about Al come from our experiences together at the 2010 New Orleans Jazz Camp. I was there as a student and he

was there as a guest observer-consultant to the fledgling New Orleans jazz camp staff. Al participated in every class session as a trombone-playing student and made every after-hours jam session that I participated in. He played his horn at Preservation Hall, Fritzell's, the steamboat Natchez, the Palm Court Café and was on stage at the 2010 Satchmo Summer Fest in the French Quarter. He played his heart and soul out during that hot August week and I'm thankful that I was there to see, hear and be a witness to it all.

*Jay Rice  
San Clemente*

~~~~~

When our trombone player decided it was too far to travel from Oceanside to La Mesa every Wednesday to play with Dixie Express, Alan said he would like to fill the vacancy. We were elated but a little concerned. How would he fit in with a "burger house" band? We need not have worried. He was always supportive and helpful. If the rhythm started to slow down or speed up, he would reach into his bag of tricks and bring out the wooden clappers and bring us back in line.

*John Contreras  
Dixie Express*

~~~~~

Alan will be deeply missed. He was truly a pleasure to work with.

*Estrella Munguia,  
Town & Country*

~~~~~

Alan's military background resulted in two of his most admirable qualities — **Dedication** and **Determination**. One event in particular illustrates how Alan was ready to complete any mission and to make sure that it was done correctly....

Several years ago, Alan and the New Orleans Wanderers were engaged to play a concert in Green Valley, Arizona. The jazz society which hired the band wanted Alan and Katie Cavera to warm up the audience before the concert by playing a tuba-banjo duet in the lobby of the performing arts center.

The afternoon of the concert, our hosts took the band to dinner at a restaurant that must hold a world

record for excruciatingly slow service. Before most of the band had even received a salad, the hour for the pre-concert warmup was rapidly approaching. Finally, Alan, abandoning any hope of receiving an entree, excused himself from the table and left for the concert venue with Joan. Just as he left, several of the entrees arrived. As we wolfed down the food, I double-checked the directions to the venue with our host. As soon as Katie finished eating, we hustled to my car and started out for the performing arts center...except there was *one wrong turn* in the set of directions we had been given. After what seemed like an eternity of driving the wrong way and a frenzied inquiry for directions at a gas station, we finally got on the right track.

As we pulled up in front of the performing arts center, Katie unpacked her banjo and dashed for the front door. We were both concerned that Alan, like many musical acquaintances, would be

*continued on page 12*

**AFCDJS PRESENTS  
FREE 2011-2012  
DIXIE WORKSHOPS**  
(2nd Thurs. of month, 7-9 pm)

Nov. 10

**2012 Dates:**

Jan. 12 • Feb. 16 (3rd Thurs.)

March 8 • April 12 • May 10

June 14 • July 12 • Aug. 9

Sept. 13 • Oct. 11 • Nov. 8

AFCDJS-sponsored workshops are held the second Thursday of every month (except December) from 7 to 9pm at the San Diego Musicians Hall, 1717 Morena Blvd.

*Requirement:*

Desire to play Dixieland Jazz!

*Furnished:*

Drums, piano and a core group of instructors.

~~~~~  
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TALENT WELCOME!**  
~~~~~

**(619) 297-JASS (5277)**

**[www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)**

The personnel of many of the local Bands that have appeared in our Festivals have been participants in the AFCDJS free Jazz Workshops.

# Lots to 'Learn' at Next Society Monthly Concert-Dance

## Hot Jazz Instructors Jan. 22

Fresh off their weekend of instructing students in the art of playing traditional jazz, the Hot Jazz Instructors will perform at the first AFCDJS monthly concert-dance of 2012. The concert begins at 1pm and ends at 4pm in the Mississippi Room at the Lafayette Hotel & Suites, 2223 El Cajon Blvd. in San Diego. The Lafayette is also the location where the AFCDJS Adult Traditional Jazz Camp takes place (Jan. 19-22).

Though the monthly concert-dance series is normally held on the *third* Sunday of the month, this event was moved to the **fourth** Sunday, to take advantage of the fact that all the talented AFCDJS Jazz Camp faculty will be in the same place at the same time!

Led by trumpeter Phil Kirk, who is also the Director of the Jazz Camp, the Hot Jazz Instructors are Clint Baker, trombone; "Gentleman Jim" Buchmann, clarinet and sax; John Royen, piano; Katie Cavera, banjo and guitar; Marty Eggers, bass and tuba; and Steve Apple, drums.

The first AFCDJS Adult Jazz Camp took place in 1996. Since then, the camp has become a desirable experience for those who wish to learn how to play jazz.

Please join the Hot Jazz Instructors for an afternoon of great music on Jan. 22. And — if you are interested in learning to play traditional jazz, be sure to check out the advertisement on page 13.

Openings are still available in all classes except piano and clarinet/sax!



## Donations Being Sought For Musicians' Hospitality

Longtime AFCDJS member Barbara Moore is soliciting donations of snacks for the Musicians' Hospitality Room at the 2011 San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival. Please bring any of the following: muffins, danishes, cookies, crackers, candy, nuts, chex mixes, fruit, and any other non-perishable snack items.

Barbara purchases most of these items so whatever you can bring or

whatever cash you would care to donate is very much appreciated. She also accepts and purchases premade deli trays, cheeses and fruits. These items are provided to the musicians in addition to the sandwiches, soft drinks and coffee furnished by the Town & Country.

Please contact Barbara to let her know how you can help: (619) 223-8842 or e-mail [Dougbarb@cox.net](mailto:Dougbarb@cox.net).

## All Star Bob Havens to Perform at Fest #32

The 2011 San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival lineup will include a world-renowned all star — trombonist **Bob Havens**, who will play with Tim Laughlin, Connie Jones and the New Orleans All-Stars.

Born in Quincy, IL in 1930, he started studying both trombone and violin at age seven and played both instruments throughout his school years. The first "name band" Bob performed with was the Ralph Flanagan Orchestra. However, he is better known for his 22-year stay with the Lawrence Welk Orchestra, performing on Welk's famous television programs from 1960 to 1982.

In addition to his work with orchestras, Bob also has impeccable jazz credentials, including stints with Al Hirt, Pete Fountain, George Girard, Bob Crosby's Orchestra/Bob Cats, Pete Kelly's Big Seven and Bob Ringwald's Great Pacific Jazz Band. More recently he has worked with Banu Gibson and New Orleans Hot Jazz, Jim Cullum's Jazz Band, the New Orleans Classic Jazz Orchestra and as guest soloist at the Atlanta Jazz Party and similar events.

Bob Havens is a first-class ensemble player — an inventive and lyrical soloist and a fine vocalist in the Jack Teagarden tradition. AFCDJS is proud to welcome this outstanding musician to Festival #32. Be sure to catch the All-Stars in one or more of its eight sets Friday, Saturday or Sunday during the Festival!



# Dixieland Jazz Participants...Take Note!

## Join us for a Dixieland Jazz Thanksgiving Day Feast.

### Thanksgiving Day Dixieland Jazz Champagne Buffet



The Town and Country Resort is offering a Champagne Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 24, 2011 in the Golden West Room of the Convention Center.

The dinner will be a Champagne Buffet with all the traditional trimmings, served from 3 pm to 6 pm. Seating will be family style and please indicate time choice below. **Do not call or send money now. All money will be collected at the door.**

A discount price of \$28, including service charge and Calif. State sales tax is reserved for Dixieland Jazz Festival Participants who send advanced reservations in prior to November 23, 2011. Walk-ins will be \$30.

#### Dinner Buffet Features:

- Assorted Domestic and Imported Cheese Display with Gourmet Crackers & Sliced French Baguettes
- Fresh Sliced Fruits in Season with Honey -Poppy Seed Dip
- An Appetizing Variety of Harvest Salads:  
Tossed Green Salad with Choice of Dressings, Creamy Waldorf, Old Fashioned Potato, Three Bean Salad

#### Entrees:

Carved to Order:

- Roasted Tom Turkey and Tart Cranberry Sauce
- Herb Crusted Sirloin of Beef - Au Jus and Horseradish Cream
- Fluffy Snow Flake Mashed Potatoes, Rich Turkey Gravy, Savory Herb Stuffing, Candied Yams with Brown Sugar, Fresh Seasonal Vegetable Medley, Buttered Green Beans Almandine
- Assorted Freshly Baked Rolls & Butter

#### Desserts Display:

- Old Fashioned Pies to include:
- Apple Crumble, Cherry, Pumpkin, and Pecan
- Chocolate-Cherry Black Forest Cake
- A Glass of Champagne

Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Assorted Herbal Teas

**Adult:** \$28.00 Per Person - Advance Reservations  
\$30.00 Per Person - At The Door  
**Children:** \$17.00 Per Child Under 12 Years Old

#### RESERVATIONS ARE MADE BY RETURNING THIS FORM TO:

Dixieland Thanksgiving Buffet

Town and Country Resort

500 Hotel Circle North

San Diego, CA 92108

Attn: Banquet Manager or email us at:

[banquets@towncountry.com](mailto:banquets@towncountry.com)

#### RESERVATIONS:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: (Check 1st and 2nd Choice)

3:00  3:30  4:00  4:30

5:00  5:30  6:00

Number of People: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Town and Country

RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER

# Remembering ...

*Continued from page 9*

pacing the floor, waiting impatiently for the banjoist's arrival and fuming over the delay. However, as Katie flung open the lobby door I heard the sound of a solo tuba, playing "When You're Smiling!" Dedication and Determination...*Nothing* could stop Alan Adams from starting the gig on time!!!

*Hal Smith*

*Former AFCDJS Assistant Director*

~~~~~

"It comes from his Soul." I love that quotation! It encapsulates what Alan Adams was all about. Very active in the San Diego/Southern California music scene, Alan played terrific trombone and tuba and had performed with a ton of the leading Dixieland groups. Plus, he was active in a number of music and jazz education-oriented organizations. What Alan did in music came from deep within his being.

*Dr. Rosemary Hallum*

~~~~~

Alan was an inspiration to so many students at Mission Bay High School, including myself. I have such great memories of playing alongside of

Alan, always pushing me to play my best. He truly cared about spreading his love of music to the next generation of musicians and I will always be thankful for the time I spent with him.

*JP Balmat*

*Mission Bay HS*

~~~~~

Alan was always a great friend and supporter of jazz. I was trying to explain to someone the other day how important traditional jazz music was to him. Not only was he a strong advocate for the jazz education program in San Diego, but when he heard that they were going to try and start a jazz camp in New Orleans, he opened up our camp to them and gave them all the help he could.

He was completely focused on the continuation of the jazz traditions that he loved so much whether he was here in San Diego or in New Orleans giving his advice and years of experience freely and unselfishly.

I always enjoyed sharing the stage with him, too. There were times when I'd have to play with a pick up group and when I saw him come waltzing in with his tuba, I knew the rhythm section would be ok. And I used to love playing with him in the New

Orleans Wanderers which he led on trombone. It was always a real treat for me when he would sing. He had a certain style to his singing that just always made me smile. I'm going to miss him so much at the San Diego Festival and at the San Diego Jazz Camp. It really won't be the same without him.

*Katie Cavera*

~~~~~

My family will miss him. He inspired my boys to play Dixieland music. Truly a wonderful man.

*Bill Barnsley*

~~~~~

My absolutely favorite thing about Al Adams was he always showed up for gigs with a passion to play. It didn't matter if it was 6am for a cold, outside TV gig to promote the Festival, a non-paying charity event that took all afternoon in the hot sun, or a special gig at the Mississippi Room. He loved to play and always seemed to be having a good time.

Last November, he didn't want to miss out at the 31st Annual Festival, so he arranged to sing a little ditty with Heliotrope called "*He'd have to get under - get out and get under.*" Alan loved his jazz.

*Myrna Goodwin*

*AFCDJS Secretary*

~~~~~

Bill and I are deeply grateful for the many happy dancing opportunities Alan provided to our vintage dance community, and are most certainly going to miss seeing his smiling eyes behind that trombone.

*Beata Csanadi*

*San Diego*

~~~~~

When asked to write a few words about Alan, I had so much I wanted to say. But, I have to keep it short. He was easy to work with, always supportive, patient, and with a sense of humor. I had a nickname for him, "Wile E Coyote". Alan was gifted with wonderful eyebrows. He would be seriously talking to you and start wiggling those eyebrows. Of course, it would crack me up. Once he had one

*continued on page 14*



*Alan Adams playing with 'The Jammers'*



# SAN DIEGO ADULT TRADITIONAL JAZZ CAMP

*The original and only music camp by AFCDJS*

**January 19-22, 2012**

All facilities are located at the Lafayette Hotel & Suites in San Diego. Instruction will include sectionals for front line and rhythm. Students play music together and with faculty members throughout the weekend.

### 2012 FACULTY:

**Phil Kirk, AFCDJS Asst. Dir.** - trumpet, cornet

**Clint Baker** - trombone

**Jim Buchmann** - clarinet, sax **SOLD OUT**

**John Royen** - piano **SOLD OUT**

**Katie Cavera** - banjo, guitar

**Marty Eggers** - tuba, bass

**Steve Apple** - drums

**TUITION:** \$400.00 \* *Enrollment is limited.*

\* There is a \$50.00 tuition discount for Jazz Camp students who stay at the Lafayette Hotel & Suites. For room reservations, contact the hotel at 1-888-272-6343; [www.lafayettehotelsd.com](http://www.lafayettehotelsd.com). Ask for the "Jazz Camp Suite rate" which includes breakfast each day. Make checks to AFCDJS (deduct discount if staying at the Lafayette Hotel & Suites).

**Complete the form below and mail it with your check to: AFCDJS, PO Box 880387, San Diego, CA 92168-0387**

**To receive further information, call (619) 297-5277 or E-mail: [jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org](mailto:jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org)**

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Brunis . . .

*Continued from page 16*

appropriate “New Orleans Rhythm Kings” — a band that was to make jazz history. He left the N.O.R.K. in 1924 but during that time he made his first records with the Rhythm Kings and also recorded with Bix and the Wolverines.

In 1924 he began a 10-year residency with the popular Ted Lewis orchestra, a period when he had fewer opportunities to play his kind of jazz but he did learn “showmanship” techniques. He also made a trip to Europe, one of the highlights of his stay.

By 1934 he was back with another master showman, Louis Prima, at the Famous Door on New York’s famed 52nd Street. By 1936 he became virtually the “house trombonist” at Nick’s in Greenwich Village, where he played with the various bands, led by different leaders (Sharkey Bonano was the first) but with pretty much the same musicians — Pee Wee Russell, Eddie Condon, Joe Sullivan, George Wettling, Jimmy McPartland, Bud Freeman, Bobby Hackett and always Brunis.

He made his first serious side-trip out of Nick’s in 1939 when he joined Mugsy Spanier’s Ragtime Band in Chicago’s Hotel Sherman, but the band returned to Nick’s for two months before disbanding. During that time (in Chicago and New York) Mugsy’s band cut the famous “Great 16” Bluebirds.

After Spanier, Brunis’ travels took him to Child’s restaurant with Art Hodes and Rod Cless, then back to Nick’s (’41-’42), then another three-year stint with Ted Lewis (’43-’46). He lived briefly in Mobile, Alabama, played at Chicago’s Brass Rail, was with Eddie Condon from ’47 to ’49, then back to Chicago’s Club Eleven from 1951-1959.

In the late ’50s and early ’60s he gigged with many bands, leading his own band in Madison and Cincinnati and in the late ’60s, despite a serious illness, he continued to define the role of a trombone in Dixieland ensemble. In 1968 he played at the New Orleans Jazz Festival with Art Hodes and in

# Remembering ...

*Continued from page 12*

stray eyebrow hair growing straight up and for the longest time would not trim it.

*Alice Contreras  
AFCDJS Treasurer*

~~~~~

It 1980 we moved from Santa Monica to San Diego and bought a townhouse not far from the Town & Country Hotel. Being a drummer and a lover of jazz, I was told of a place called “Tubaman’s.”

My first visit there, I met Ira Cobb and his Jazzbo band including Ira Cobb-trumpet, Al (Mad Hatter) Adams-tuba, Howie Neilson-banjo, Roger Twedt-trombone, and Sam Lipman-clarinet. I was allowed to sit in for a few tunes, and that was the

beginning of a very long friendship.

In 1981, I was told of a Dixieland Jazz Festival that was taking place at the T&C Hotel Thanksgiving weekend. There I met Ira Cobb again with Al Adams along with Larry Channave, John Dehler, Bill Dindle, Chicago Six and many others. Next, I volunteered to do marketing and advertising for the Festival.

As the years went on, Al asked if I would like to be a member of the Board of Directors. To sum it all up, I have played many, many musical gigs with Al Adams. We had fun all the way. The Festival will go on but it won’t be the same.

*Lou Berger  
San Diego*

~~~~~

Muted - But Not Silenced

*Bill and Ed Adams*



*The loving couple — Alan and Joan Adams*

1970 he was at the Manassas Jazz Festival. He died in 1974.

Brunis’ robust style, his ensemble work and his humor endeared him to jazz fans and musicians alike and his records are legion — Deccas with Sharkey Bonano and Wingy Manone, the great Spanier Bluebirds, Commodores with Eddie Condon, the Wild Bill Davison/Brunis sessions and others. Burnies or Brunis — whatever name you called him — call him a great jazzman.

## **Jazz Roots on KSDS FM**

Jazz Roots is heard on Sunday evening, 8-10 pm, on KSDS FM (88.3 on the dial).

The program features the roots of jazz — ragtime, blues, country music and more.

Jazz Roots is hosted by Lou Curtiss, proprietor of Folk Arts Rare Records and founder of the San Diego Folk Festival and the Adams Avenue Roots Festival.

# Welcome — New and Renewal Members

July - August - September

## \$100 DAWN CLUB

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## They Called it Jazz

# Brunies or Brunis — He Was a Great Jazzman

*(This is a reprint in a series of biographies of great traditional jazz musicians. The series started with the March/April 1991 issue and this article originally appeared in the May/June 1996 edition of the Jazz Rambler and was written by Rambler founding publisher and Board Member Len Levine.)*

*By Len Levine*

New Orleans-born Georg Brunis was one of the first white trombonists to develop the art of “tailgate trombone,” epitomized by Kid Ory. Originally known as George Clarence Brunies, he changed the spelling of his name upon the advice of a numerologist.

Brunis, born in 1900, came from a musical family. His brothers, Albert (Abbie), Merritt and Richard played trumpet. Another brother, Henry, was a trombonist; his father was a violinist; his mother played piano and his two sisters played guitar.

His first musical experience was with Jack (Papa) Laine’s band, playing upright alto and drums as a child, but switched to trombone when he went on a job with Laine’s son, Alfred. The band was known as “Panzy Laine and



his Wampas Cats” and the trombonist didn’t show up, so Brunis was asked to play trombone. He faked it and continually faked it from then on. Brunis never learned to read music but he was blessed with a musical ear that told him the right notes and harmonies.

During his teens he played a gig in Bucktown on Lake Ponchatrain. It was a roadhouse called Brunning’s and across the road was another place called Martin’s where the legendary clarinetist Leon Rappolo was playing.

The two became friends.

In 1919 he was summoned to Chicago by trumpeter Paul Mares, then playing with Joe “Ragababy” Stevens’ band and Georg and his brother Abbie joined the band at Chicago’s Campbell Gardens. Shortly after that he joined pianist Elmer Schoebel at the Blatz Palm Garden. It was there that he first met Muggsy Spanier and the two forged a long musical alliance.

The next year Georg found himself on the Streckfus steamboat “S.S.Capitol,” playing the Mississippi river, where he once again hooked up with Rappolo. He also met a young cornetist of considerable talent — Bix Beiderbecke. After the boat trip, the band, with Schoebel on piano, Rappolo on clarinet, Mares on trumpet, Jack Pettis on C-melody sax, Frank Snyder on drums, Louis Black on banjo and Steve Brown on bass, opened at the Friar’s Inn in Chicago where they were dubbed the “Friar’s Society Orchestra.” After Schobel left, Mel Stitzel came in on piano and Ben Pollack took over on drums and the band changed its name to the more-

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